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Foreign Crops and MARKETS



VOLUME 54

NUMBER 12

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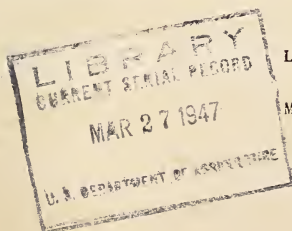
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FOR RELEASE
MONDAY
MARCH 24, 1947



Issued by the OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

Copra exports from the Netherlands Indies for January fell below the 11,000 tons in December and 15,000 tons in November. Production, however, was maintained at about 15,000 tons, with end-of-January stocks totaling some 50,000 tons, most of which had been sold for early shipment to the Netherlands. The Dutch, under a relaxation of trade regulations, January 28, now permit exports of native products from Indonesian harbors provided such shipments are duly cleared by Dutch authorities. The new regulations appear to bar export of such products as sugar, cinchona bark and quinine, tea, coffee, rubber, and rope fibers from Java, as well as palm oil, wrapper tobacco, plantation rubber, and various other plantation products from Sumatra.

British Food Minister John Strachey expressed satisfaction with results of his food discussions in the United States, at a press conference on return to London. He reported the following arrangements: (1) U. S. will supply enough beef to enable maintenance of the present meat ration, and consideration is being given to an offer of several thousand tons of turkeys at prices per pound comparable to beef; (2) small but regular shipments of United States wheat in the remainder of the crop year will safeguard the bread ration; (3) "useful" agreement has been reached for larger quantities of corn, barley, and oats for shipment this summer; and (4) satisfactory arrangements have been made for sugar for the year.

Several Swiss Government officials are being sent to Washington and Ottawa to discuss the possibility of obtaining grain imports sufficient to maintain bread rations until fall when the crop becomes available in November. Present monthly rations are 7,000 grams of bread per normal consumer, plus 1,650 grams in grain products.

Cuba's current coffee crop is short of increased domestic needs. To fill the gap, the Cuban Government on March 7 decreed that about 30,000,000 pounds of coffee should be imported.

Because of an expected wheat shortage during 1947, Chile has arranged to buy 100,000 tons from Argentina--one-tenth of Chile's needs. Sunflower acreage, according to final estimates, is 75 percent above the 31,400 acres last year and rice, 33 percent below the 119,000 acres last year.

China's 1946-47 winter grain crop may be better than last season's. The first estimate for 22 Provinces (China Proper) in 1,000 shi piculs (1 shi picul--110.23 pounds) is as follows (compared with 1945-46 and the 1930-37 average in parentheses): Wheat 543,000 (468,000, 435,000); barley 143,000 (126,000, 157,000); and oats 16,000 (13,000, 18,000). Dry weather during late winter in parts of the winter wheat belt may reduce the next wheat estimate.

WORLD BARLEY CROP BELOW AVERAGE

World barley production of 2,110 million bushels in 1946 was 140 million bushels or 7 percent more than in 1945, but about 10 percent below the 1935-39 average, according to the latest estimate of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compared with the 1945 crop, a good part of the increase occurred in the European production, which, at 621 million bushels, was substantially above the small outturn of 537 million bushels in 1945, but still considerably less than average, adding to the general grain shortage of that area. A large increase over the 1945 harvest was also reported for Africa and moderate increases for South America and Oceania.

North America: The crop in North America was virtually unchanged from the 1945 production of 430 million bushels. A slight increase in the Canadian crop was offset by a small decline in the United States. Canadian barley acreage, which has increased substantially, in 1945 was 70 percent above the 1935-39 average. Some shift to wheat reduced the barley acreage in 1946, but left it still more than 50 percent above the average level. Per-acre yields in 1946 were also somewhat above average, with total production showing a gain of about 80 percent compared with average. Acreage in the United States was slightly below average, but production was 10 percent above normal, because of relatively high yields. In Mexico the crop was slightly larger than in 1945 and also above average.

Europe: Production in Europe was estimated at 621 million bushels, compared with the 1935-39 average of 736 million. The decline is attributed to an acreage reduction of about 10 percent and below-average yields. Output was below average in the principal-producing countries, except in the United Kingdom and Denmark. Production in Denmark, in 1946, estimated at 64 million bushels, was about 20 percent more than the 1935-39 average, with both yields and acreage above average. The increase in the United Kingdom is entirely due to larger acreage, since latest production returns, reflecting the losses caused by unfavorable weather during harvest time, show below-average yields. Other countries reporting above-average outturns are Belgium and the Netherlands, where the gains are credited to increased acreage, and Portugal and Switzerland, with both yields and acreage above average. The largest quantitative reductions are estimated for Germany, Rumania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Spain.

Estimates for European countries with changed boundaries have been, as far as possible, adjusted to 1937 frontiers for comparison with prewar data. Estimates for the crop in territory annexed to the Soviet Union are, thus, shown as part of the European total. Annexed territory, including Bessarabia, Northern Bukovina, Ruthenia, eastern Poland, the Baltic States, and parts of Finland, normally produced about 75 million bushels of barley. Considering present boundaries, the European total would be lower and the Soviet Union's correspondingly larger, if the figures for these areas were shifted.

BARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries,
average 1935-39, annual 1944-46 a/

Continent and country	Acreage b/			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1935-39 acres	1944 acres	1945 acres	Average 1935-39 bushels/acre	1944 bushels/acre	1945 bushels/acre	Average 1935-39 bushels	1944 bushels	1946 bushels
North America:									
Canada	4,291	7,291	7,350	20.7	26.7	21.5	88,882	194,712	157,757
Mexico	374	401	408	43.2	10.3	11.6	3,658	4,636	5,273
United States	10,816	12,104	10,465	22.1	23.0	25.5	238,616	278,561	265,350
Estimated total c/	15,480	19,800	18,220	-	-	-	331,000	478,000	429,000
Europe:									
Austria	419	334	259	32.3	26.5	21.3	13,613	8,864	6,065
Belgium	74	200	180	48.2	45.5	36.1	3,570	9,100	6,500
Bulgaria d/	535	482	407	28.4	16.1	11.5	15,168	7,777	4,842
Czechoslovakia	8/1,612	-	1,415	32.2	-	-	51,946	-	-
Denmark	939	978	1,007	55.9	58.7	57.4	52,481	57,402	57,825
Eire	118	168	170	14.3	45.9	41.1	5,413	7,118	6,995
Estonia	230	-	-	17.8	-	-	4,100	-	-
Finland e/	305	336	346	35.6	27.8	23.4	8,478	6,845	8,100
France	1,897	1,505	1,680	27.9	21.4	20.5	53,015	32,150	34,500
Germany	4,099	2,913	-	41.2	36.1	-	168,853	105,208	-
Greece	511	338	405	18.1	-	12.7	9,267	-	4,300
Hungary	1,163	1,388	1,260	25.9	28.3	15.9	30,178	29,854	22,138
Italy	1,488	605	595	20.9	17.0	11.6	10,215	10,400	7,000
Latvia	456	-	-	20.8	-	-	9,470	-	-
Lithuania	530	-	-	22.5	-	-	11,944	-	-
Netherlands	107	81	153	53.1	43.1	36.1	5,683	3,491	4,260
Norway	143	115	102	38.2	19.9	36.3	5,467	2,283	3,705
Poland	2,965	-	-	21.9	-	-	65,017	-	-
Portugal	175	273	305	10.2	9.4	7.3	1,783	2,558	4,837
Rumania	3,533	-	-	13.3	-	-	46,861	-	-
Spain	1,549	3,800	3,674	18.9	18.9	8.8	97,059	71,859	33,000
Sweden	252	237	221	39.5	34.0	33.6	9,951	8,051	8,487
Switzerland	13	71	78	33.1	40.6	44.5	430	2,884	3,472
United Kingdom	934	1,973	2,215	39.2	41.4	44.4	36,596	81,760	83,347
Yugoslavia	1,036	-	-	18.0	-	-	18,618	-	-
Estimated total c/	27,110	24,270	24,080	-	-	-	736,000	621,000	621,000

U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) .. 22,530

Soviet Union: Though substantially below average, production in the Soviet Union was estimated to be about the same as in the two previous years. Barn yields, however, based on the quantity of grain actually harvested and usable, were indicated to be somewhat smaller than the low yields in 1944 and 1945. The small yields in 1946 reflect the drought damage in the central and southern areas of European Russia.

Asia: The crop in Asia, estimated at 672 million bushels, is about 100 million bushels less than the 1935-39 average, but about the same as in 1945. Changes from 1945 within the area were largest in Turkey, where production was up about 45 million bushels, because of above-average yields, contrasted with the very low yields in 1945. Reduced crops in India, Japan, Korea, and China balanced the gain in the Turkish crop. The acreage in Asia was slightly less than in 1945 and also below average.

South America: The record production of 57 million bushels in Argentina represents more than 80 percent of the South American total, and brings that total up to about double the average production. Chile's crop was larger than in 1945, but slightly below average.

Africa: Total production in Africa, estimated at 86 million bushels, was double the small 1945 outturn, though considerably below average. A marked reduction in barley acreage accounts for the decline from average, since per-acre yields were above average. Production was much above the low 1945 level in French North African countries, especially in Algeria and French Morocco. The favorable 1946 season resulted in an outturn four times as large as the virtual crop failure in those two countries in 1945. In Egypt a significantly reduced acreage in 1946 brought the production below the high level of 1945 and also below average. Though better than a year earlier, the crop in Tunisia was less than average.

Oceania: On the basis of incomplete reports the Australian production was expected to be larger than in 1945, in contrast with smaller crops of other grains. Whereas drought damage in New South Wales reduced outturns of wheat and oats considerably, barley production in areas affected by the drought is not significant. A considerable increase was reported in the barley acreage sown in South Australia, where two-thirds of the country's barley crop is grown. Some increase was also reported for Victoria, the second area in importance. Crop conditions in these States were relatively favorable though not up to early season prospects.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, R. L. Gastineau, Judith E. Downey, Lois Bacon, and A. I. Tannous.

J U S T R E L E A S E D

The following Foreign Agriculture Circular is now available from this Office: "Cuba's Poultry and Egg Industry."

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDSCUBAN RICE IMPORTS
CONTINUE SMALL

Cuban rice imports from August through February of the current marketing year were 30 percent below those for the same months last season. Arrivals from the United States were down 70 million pounds from a year ago, and receipts from other Western Hemisphere countries were 17 million pounds less. Smaller domestic supplies of rice on March 1 than in a month earlier were due to slightly increased consumption and a decline in imports.

CUBA: Rice arrivals,
August-February 1946-47, with comparisons

Country or Area :	Average		August-July		August-February	
	1932-36 :	1937-41 :	1944-45 :	1945-46 :	1945-46 :	1946-47
	Million :	Million :	Million :	Million :	Million :	Million
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Orient	333	201	0	0	0	0
United States ...	19	232	339	330	242	174
Ecuador	0	1	70	56	29	16
Chile	0	0	9	13	8	1
Colombia	0	0	0	12	1	2
Other countries .	27	1	0	11	4	6
Total	379	435	418	422	284	199

Compiled from preliminary figures of ships' manifests, except for calendar year 1932-41, which are official.

Reduced arrivals in recent weeks were attributed mainly to congestion of merchandise on Cuban docks. During the first 2 weeks of March, 35 million pounds arrived at Cuban ports, all from the United States, but by March 14 this rice had not reached commercial channels, as considerable time often lapses before rice is unloaded and it reaches the consumer.

ECUADOR'S RECORD RICE
CROP BOOSTS EXPORTS

Record rice exports during 1946 were shipped from the largest crop ever produced in Ecuador. Official estimates place 1946 production at 7,690,000 bushels (225 million pounds), compared with the small crop of 4,580,000 bushels (135 million pounds) in the preceding year and the 1937-41 average

of 3,370,000 bushels (100 million pounds). In addition to increased exports, domestic consumption in 1946 is estimated to have gained 11 percent over the preceding year's.

ECUADOR: Rice exports by country,
1946 with comparisons

Country of destination	Average : 1937-41	: 1942	: 1943	: 1944	: 1945 a/	: 1946 a/
	: Million : pounds	: Million : pounds	: Million : pounds	: Million : pounds	: Million : pounds	: Million : pounds
Cuba	2	28	81	88	55	46
Peru	13	8	20	29	0	0
Venezuela	6	20	0	17	4	17
Colombia	4	0	b/	0	b/	2
Panama	2	23	b/	2	b/	5
Philippines	0	0	0	0	0	20
United States c/..	b/	0	b/	b/	0	18
Jamaica	0	0	0	0	0	16
Other countries ..	4	6	4	6	6	d/ 24
Total	31	85	105	142	65	148

Compiled from official sources.

a/ Preliminary. b/ Less than 500,000 pounds. c/ To UNRRA in 1946 d/ Six million pounds to Mexico, 5 million to Greece.

Information is not available as to the probable size of the 1947 crop, but conditions indicate that it may not be as large as the bumper harvest of last year. The price of export-quality rice at mills in Guayaquil was fixed at \$8.07 per 100 pounds and \$7.93 per 100 pounds at country mills in a resolution issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, February 7. The retail price at the public market that month rose to \$10.49 per 100 pounds.

ARGENTINA'S RICE
ACREAGE DOWN

The 1946-47 rice acreage of Argentina is placed at 117,000 acres, down 6 percent from the corresponding forecast of 124,000 acres in the preceding year, according to the second official estimate. Given an average yield per acre, the crop may be from 10 to 30 million pounds less than the preceding year's harvest. The latest statistics available indicate that rice exports during 1946 were about 10 million pounds.

CANADA IMPORTS
LESS RICE

Canada's rice imports during 1946 equaled about one-half the prewar (1936-40) average, and were also sharply below last year's owing to the fact that an increased volume of United States rice was shipped in order to help relieve shortages in Asiatic countries. Canada formerly imported a large proportion of its rice from the Far East, but during the war availabilities were re-

stricted to countries of the Western Hemisphere. Since the prohibition of rice exports from Mexico in 1943, Canada's imports have come almost entirely from the United States.

CANADA: Rice imports,
averages 1931-40, annual 1943-46

Classification	Average		1943	1944	a/1945	1946 a/
	1931-35	1936-40				
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Rough rice	(54)	(57)	(87)	(46)	(51)	(38)
Rough, milled basis	35	37	57	30	33	25
Cleaned	12	14	7	5	6	1
Total, milled basis	47	51	64	35	39	26
	:	:	:	:	:	:

Trade of Canada.

a/ Preliminary

FATS AND OILS

FRENCH MOROCCO AIDS
OILSEED EXPANSION

The French Moroccan Government enacted legislation before the 1947 planting season designed to encourage oilseed production with an ultimate goal set at 55,000 tons of oilseeds, the capacity of domestic crushing mills.

With the exception of flaxseed which has its own organization, all oilseeds in French Morocco are handled principally by a cooperative that furnishes the seed, assures benefits to the growers, and receives their crop for pressing. The favorable provisions of the 1946 program which permitted the growers to obtain oilseed cake and to retain a part of the oil for their own use are continued in 1947. Priorities on a shipment of tractors from Belgium were also granted to those pledging to plant oilseeds.

This year's oilseed campaign includes carthame or safflower, in addition to the oilseeds regularly planted. Especially suitable for poor land, this plant is intended for growing by the natives.

Increased prices, determined by applying specified coefficients to the guaranteed wheat price of 840 francs per quintal (\$1.92 per bushel), will doubtless be a major incentive for oilseed planting.

The price of refined oil produced from oilseeds was fixed at 58 francs per kilogram (22 cents per pound), except for olive oil, which was set at 134 francs per liter (57 cents per pound) and linseed oil, 82 francs per kilogram (31 cents per pound).

FRENCH MOROCCO: Oilseed Prices,
1946 and 1947

Oilseed	1946		1947 a/	
	Coefficient	Cents per pound	Coefficient	Cents per pound
Carthame (safflower)	-	-	1.7	5.4
Rape.....	2.0	6.4	2.8	9.0
Cotton.....	1.1	3.5	1.5	4.8
Mustard (white).....	1.3	4.2	1.8	5.8
Sesame.....	2.6	8.3	3.6	11.5
Sunflower.....	1.8	5.8	2.5	8.0

American Consulate, Rabat, Morocco.

a/ Assuming that the guaranteed wheat price remains the same as in 1946.

With the exception of flaxseed and sunflower seed, French Moroccan oilseed production in 1946 was negligible, largely because favorable legislation was not enacted until after planting time. Acreage planted to sunflower seed was reduced from almost 9,000 acres in 1945 to less than 3,000 in 1946. Last year's output, however, amounted to 800 short tons, whereas drought had reduced the 1945 crop to approximately 370 tons. Flaxseed acreage in 1946 was reduced from 100,000 acres the previous year to 15,000 from which 158,000 bushels were realized. As a result of the severe drought, only 172,000 bushels were produced in 1945.

Since the expiration of the 5-year contract with French industrialists last season, Moroccan flaxseed has gone to France at a price 1.9 times (about \$4.56 per bushel) the French wheat price of 1,125 francs per quintal. The original contract was changed in order to permit the needs of Tunisia and Algeria to be satisfied in addition to those of Morocco before shipment to France. Only 2,200 short tons of linseed oil and 53 tons of seed were exported during 1946.

INDIAN WINTER OILSEED ACREAGES REDUCED

Indian flaxseed plantings for harvest in 1947 amount to 2,105,000 acres, according to the first official estimate. This represents a decrease of 7 percent from last year's comparable figure and 17 percent from the average of the first estimates for the past 5 years. Likewise, the first estimate for rapeseed and mustard seed is placed at 2,676,000 acres, indicating decreases of 4 and 13 percent, respectively, from the comparable estimates of 1946 and the past 5-year average. These reductions are likely the result of increased cereal-grain acreages. Crop conditions are reported generally good.

TOBACCOCUBA'S TOBACCO EXPORTS
RISE IN 1946

Cuba exported about 46.7 million pounds of leaf tobacco in 1946 (valuation \$47,265,000), compared with 1945 exports of about 30 million pounds (valuation \$ 37,667,000). The United States was the market for 32.2 million pounds, or 69 percent of the total 1946 exports. Spain took more than 9 million pounds. Other principal destinations were Canada, Chile, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.

CUBA: Exports of leaf tobacco, by principal countries of destination, 1946 with comparisons

Country of destination	Average : 1935-39	1944	1945	1946
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
United States	13,861	28,951	24,911	32,232
Germany	3,501	-	-	-
Spain	5,223	528	855	9,219
Netherlands	1,097	-	-	521
Canada	311	606	836	1,050
Chile ..	160	369	477	618
Argentina	1,043	993	646	260
Switzerland	a/	a/	343	610
Canary Islands	307	-	729	271
Others	2,209	1,003	1,217	1,964
Total	27,712	32,450	30,014	46,745

Compiled from official sources.

a/ If any, included with others.

Cigar exports in 1946 totaled 59,695,000 pieces valued at \$8,371,000, compared with 109,955,000 pieces, valued at \$12,529,000 in 1945. The principal markets for cigars last year were Spain, the United States and French Africa. Exports of cigarettes in 1946, totaled 34,805,000 pieces or approximately the same as in 1945. Panama and Peru took most of Cuba's 1946 cigarette exports.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERSCHINA'S TEXTILE MILLS
USING MORE COTTON

Cotton mill consumption in China, estimated at 1,500, . . . bales (of 500 pounds gross) for the year ending July 31, 1947, is expected to reach 1,800,000 bales in 1947-48. Cotton mills used about 2,150,000 bales annually during the five prewar years (ended July 31, 1939). Stocks (nearly all foreign-grown) on hand in mills and warehouses on last August 1 were estimated at 750,000 bales.

Imports during August-February 1946-47 through commercial channels, amounted to 383,000 bales, including 220,000 from the United States, 138,000 from India, 18,000 from Egypt, 5,000 from Afghanistan, and 2,000 from Brazil. Receipts from UNRRA during this period totaled 41,000 bales, making 424,000 from all sources. An additional 180,000 bales of UNRRA cotton are expected to arrive before June 30, bringing the prospective total to 604,000 bales for the season. An earlier report indicated that about 200,000 bales of American cotton, 100,000 of Brazilian, and 80,000 of Indian were booked through commercial sources for arrival before June 30, but a large portion of it was expected to be cancelled because of the acute shortage of foreign exchange.

Cotton mills were expected to obtain about 500,000 bales from the domestic crop in 1946-47 and 900,000 in 1947-48. An estimated 1 to 1.2 million bales of Chinese cotton is absorbed each year in hand spinning, padding of clothing, and other home uses without entering commercial channels.

Stocks on hand at the end of July 1947, calculated on the basis of the above figures, may be around 350,000 bales, plus any commercial shipments for which exchange allocations may be made at a later date. Import requirements for 1947-48 were calculated at 1,150,000 bales, based on the above figures and an adequate carry-over of 600,000 bales.

Mill operations, particularly in Shanghai, were handicapped throughout 1946 by shortages of fuel and power. Recent information from private sources indicates that the Government intends to transfer to private ownership (in November 1947) the 42 Government-owned cotton mills, containing 1.6 million standing spindles, located at Shanghai, Tientsin, and Tsingtao.

CANADIAN COTTON IMPORTS RISING

Canada's cotton imports during the 5 months August-December 1946 amounted to 150,000 bales (of 478 pounds net), compared with 189,000 for a similar period in 1945, but have been rising steadily from 18,000 bales in September to 45,000 in December. Practically all the increase is in imports from the United States. A small increase in imports from Brazil was nearly offset by smaller receipts from Mexico. The low volume of imports during July to October last year may be attributed largely to strikes in Canadian mills in June, July, and part of August and to the peak level of cotton prices existent at that time.

Cotton consumption (all purposes) during August-December 1946 is estimated at 149,000 bales, compared with 154,000 a year ago. Mill operations are still handicapped by insufficient labor, but August monthly consumption has about equaled the rate for those months in 1945. The total for 1946-47 however, may exceed the 1945-46 total of 390,000 as the latter period includes 2 months when operations were greatly reduced by strikes. Consumption of 31,000 bales was reported for November and 30,000 in December.

CANADA: Imports of cotton by countries.
(Bales of 478 pounds net)

Countries	Year beginning August 1						
	Average: 1934-38	1942	1943	1944	1945	August 1945	December 1946
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
United States	278.8	318.3	325.6	325.8	345.9	171.8	131.9
Brazil	a/ 1.3	28.8	0.2	10.4	14.6	1.7	6.2
Egypt	7.3	3.9	0.3	0.9	1.5	0.9	0.3
Mexico	b/ :	6.7	6.2	25.6	40.1	13.1	9.8
Peru	5/ :	6.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
British India	c/ 1.4	1.7	2.4	2.6	6.9	1.3	1.2
Other countries	0.7	5.7	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Total	288.2	371.6	335.6	365.7	409.3	189.1	149.5

Compiled from Trade of Canada.

a/ One year only b/ If any, included in "Other countries". c/ Four-year average.

Stocks at the end of December should be about equal to the July 31 estimate of 85,000 bales since consumption and imports during the August-December period were nearly equal.

Effective March 1, the Canadian Government reduced its subsidy on cotton imports by 9 cents a pound, making the subsidy equal to the difference between 24.4 cents a pound (for American Middling 15/16-inch staple) and the actual cost of the cotton. Ceiling prices on cotton yarns and fabrics were raised from 17 to 20 cents a pound to offset the reduced subsidy and further increases of 5 to 25 percent were expected when stocks on hand at that time were exhausted.

This subsidy was authorized late in 1942 when the Government's Wartime Prices and Trade Board entered into a series of separate agreements with local mills whereby the Government agreed to refund to the mills the cost of raw cotton above 15.4 cents a pound, provided mill profits did not exceed 116-2/3 percent of prewar averages established for tax purposes. No claims were filed, however, until early in 1944 because profits were maintained at that level or above. A War Exchange Tax of 10 percent on cotton, cotton lintors, and certain yarns and woven goods was removed on March 20, 1944.

WEEKLY COTTON PRICES
ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange.

**COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths
and qualities in specific markets**

Market location, kind, and quality	: :Date: :1947:	: Unit of weight	: Unit of currency:	: Price in:Equivalent foreign:U.S. cents currency:per pound
Alexandria	:	:Kantar	:	:
Ashmouni, Good	:3-13:	99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 44.00 : 36.68
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	:3-13:	99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 39.50 : 32.93
Giza 7, Good	:3-13:	99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 41.25 : 34.38
Giza 7, F.G.F.	:3-13:	99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 38.00 : 31.67
Karnak, Good	:3-13:	99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 41.75 : 34.80
Karnak, F.G.F.	:3-13:	99.05 lbs.	: Tallari	: 39.25 : 32.72
Bombay	:	:Candy	:	:
Jarila, Fine	:3-13:	784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 433.00 : 16.65
Broach, Fine	:3-13:	784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 528.00 : 20.31
Sind American, Fine	:3-13:	784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 546.00 : 21.00
Ponjab " ,289-F, Fine	:3-13:	784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 621.00 : 23.88
Kampala, East African	:3-13:	784 lbs.	: Rupee	: 920.00 : 35.38
Buenos Aires	:	:Metric ton	:	:
Type B	:3-15:	2204.6 lbs.	: Peso	: 2170.00 : 29.31
Lima	:	:Sp. quintal	:	:
Tanguis, Type 5	:3-15:	101.4 lbs.	: Sol	: 150.00 : 22.76
Pima, Type 1 (Nominal)	:3-15:	101.4 lbs.	: Sol	: 182.00 : 27.61
Recife	:	:Arroba	:	:
Mata, Type 5	:3-14:	33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	: 140.00 : 23.03
Sertao, Type 5	:3-14:	33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	: 145.00 : 23.85
Sao Paulo	:	:Arroba	:	:
Sao Paulo, Type 5	:3-14:	33.07 lbs.	: Cruzeiro	: 165.50 : 27.23
Torreón	:	:Sp. quintal	:	:
Middling, 15/16"	:3-14:	101.4 lbs.	: Peso	: 138.75 : 28.15

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

**SOUTH AFRICA'S FRUIT
OUTLOOK VARIED**

Preliminary estimates of the 1946-47 deciduous fruit crops in South Africa indicate substantial increases in apples and pears, but reductions in table grapes, plums, and peaches as compared with 1945-46 production.

The apple crop is estimated at 833,000 bushels (48 pounds), compared with 750,000 bushels last season, and the 4-year (1942-45) average of 1,032,000 bushels. Pear production is expected to total 600,000 bushels (50 pounds), compared with 400,000 bushels a year ago and an average of 687,000 bushels for the preceding four seasons.

The table-grape estimate of 45,000 tons is 1,000 tons less than last year's, and the plum crop of 5,000 tons, is off 500 tons from a year ago, and 1,500 tons from the 3-year (1943-45) average. With a crop failure in the

Transvaal, peach production is estimated at only 1,600 tons, compared with 4,000 tons last season.

The marketing program for the 1946-47 crop provides for complete control by the Deciduous Fruit Board of exports and domestic marketings. Exports are expected to be about as follows: Pears, 320,000 boxes (40 pounds); plums, 400,000 double-layer trays (14 pounds); and peaches, 300,000 single-layer trays (7 pounds). About 1,500,000 boxes (10 pounds) of grapes are to go to the United Kingdom, 100,000 boxes to Sweden, and 60,000 boxes to the United States. No destination is reported for the other fruits. The apple crop is expected to be marketed entirely in domestic channels.

The Deciduous Fruit Board announced that advances equivalent to the following sums would be made to producers for export-quality fruit: Pears \$2.40 per box; plums, \$0.88 per double tray; peaches, \$0.80 per single-layer tray; and grapes, \$2.40 per box for "extra selected", \$1.60 per box for "selected", and \$1.20 per box for "choice".

About 4,500 tons of pears, 2,000 tons of plums, and 6,000 tons of grapes (for grape jam) are expected to be canned, and an additional 6,000 tons of grapes crushed for wine.

CUBAN TOMATO CROP DAMAGED BY BLIGHT

Because of late blight, Cuba's tomato crop suffered a severe setback in February. Shipments amounted to 10 million pounds, about two thirds of the February level last season and three fourths of the 1939-41 average for the same month. As a result, shipments during the remainder of the season will be sharply reduced. Prices of tomatoes on the New York auction varied from \$7.20 to 50 cents a lug with a distinct downward trend toward the end of the month, the low price being due to the poor quality caused by the blight.

AUSTRALIA'S APPLE CROP DOWN SHARPLY

Apple production in Australia for 1947 is now estimated at 7,438,000 bushels of 48 pounds, 33 percent less than 11,069,000 bushels in 1946 and 26 percent below the 5-year (1941-45) average of 10,000,000 bushels. The pear crop, now indicated at 3,420,000 bushels of 50 pounds, is larger than the 1946 production of 2,813,000 bushels and the 5-year (1941-45) average of 2,459,000 bushels.

GREEK CITRUS CROP CUT TO 1946 LEVEL

The 1946-47 citrus crop in Greece, though expected to exceed 1945-46 output, was reduced almost to last season's level by hot dry winds which caused about 20 percent of the crop to drop prematurely. Total citrus

production is now estimated at 1,981 thousand boxes, compared with 1,973 thousand for the 1945-46 season and the 5-year (1933-37) average of 1,691 thousand.

Orange production, now estimated at 1,025 thousand boxes, is about 4 percent less than the 1,065 thousand boxes in last season but 12 percent above the 1933-37 average. The current estimate for lemons of 406 thousand boxes is 24 percent greater than the 1945-46 crop of 328 thousand boxes, and 25 percent above the 1933-37 average of 324 thousand boxes. The tangerine crop of 520 thousand boxes is slightly less than the 540 thousand produced a year ago but larger than the 1933-37 average by a very small margin. Other citrus fruit are expected to total 30 thousand boxes, compared with 40 thousand in 1945-46 and the 5-year (1933-37) average of 40 thousand boxes.

The increase in production, compared with the 1933-37 period, is attributed to a substantial gain in the number of bearing trees, despite the wartime loss of an estimated 10 percent in tree numbers. Chemical fertilizers and animal manures continued scarce during the 1946-47 season, but the supplies of insecticides and fungicides, which were short last season, were adequate. Below-normal size is reported for fruit, but the quality is said to be good.

Attempts to export tangerines to Britain and Switzerland failed because of inadequate shipping facilities which resulted in the loss of four lots totaling about 1,268 short tons.

CORRECTION: In last week's Foreign Crops and Markets, page 201, the Argentine peach crop for 1946 should have read 7,987,000 bushels.

MISCELLANEOUS

BRAZIL'S CACAO PRODUCTION UP

The Cacao Institute now estimates the 1946-47 cacao crop in the State of Bahia, producer of over 95 percent of Brazil's cacao, at 2,300,000 bags, or 152,117 short tons. This is substantially above last year's crop of 110,000 tons and the prewar (1935-39) average of 136,000 tons annually. During the crop years 1940-44, cacao production dropped to an annual average of about 124,000 tons. Many plantations were neglected during this period on account of the shortage of labor and the unremunerative prices for cacao beans. Now that prices are sufficiently high to justify expenditures on improved cultural practices and complete harvesting, larger yields may be expected, assuming that weather and other conditions are favorable.

During the first 11 months of 1946, Brazil exported 127,882 short tons of cacao beans, of which 61 percent was destined to the United States, 30 percent to Europe, and 9 percent to other countries. In prewar years, 71 percent of Brazil's cacao went to the United States, 23 percent to Europe, and 6 percent to other countries.

The industrialization of cacao in Brazil has progressed rapidly in recent years. Processing of raw cacao rose from about 50,000 bags (132 pounds each) in 1939 to 360,000 bags in 1946. Processing capacity is expected to reach 500,000 bags in the near future.

MEXICO'S COFFEE
EXPORTS SMALLER

Mexico's 1946 exports of green coffee totaled 555,000 bags, somewhat below last year's exports of 595,000 bags, but substantially above the 1940-44 average of 483,000 bags. Ninety-five percent of the 1946 exports were destined to the United States and 4 percent to Europe, compared with 62 percent to the United States and 38 percent to Europe in prewar years (1935-39). Before the war, Germany ranked next to the United States as an importer of Mexican coffee.

MEXICO: Exports of green coffee,
1946 with comparisons

Destination	Average		1945	1946 a/
	1935-39	1940-44		
	Bags b/	Bags	Bags	Bags
United States	369,406	478,691	595,201	526,528
Canada	496	397	-	5,833
Czechoslovakia	12,998	-	-	-
France	16,233	4	-	49
Germany	160,979	2	-	-
Netherlands	17,339	167	-	14,509
Spain	15,112	17	26	61
Sweden	2,469	581	-	5,863
Other Europe	3,617	2,498	-	583
All other	561	1,136	8	1,705
Total	599,210	483,493	595,235	555,131

Compiled from official sources and foreign service reports.

a/ Preliminary. b/ Bags of 132 pounds.

No official estimate of Mexico's 1946-47 crop is yet available, but it is expected to exceed the average prewar (1935-39) production of 960,000 bags. During 1940-44, production declined to an average of about 936,000 bags. Estimates of Mexico's coffee consumption vary widely, but most authorities agree that it has increased in recent years. Some place the figure as high as 500,000 bags annually.

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LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTSCANADIAN BEEF
PRICES INCREASED

The Canadian Government recently announced an upward adjustment in the ceiling prices of red, blue, and commercial grades of dressed beef, effective March 3. The increase is 2 cents per pound at wholesale (carcass basis) and 3 cents per pound to the consumer on standard or primary retail cuts. These increases apply only to the three top qualities, and prices on all other qualities of beef remain unchanged.

The new price schedule will permit cattle buyers to pay approximately 15 cents per pound for top quality cattle on the basis of the Toronto market. Officials indicate that this action was necessary when cattle markets began to follow a price pattern similar to that experienced earlier last spring. At that time, prices for live cattle were out of line with the then existing wholesale-ceiling prices on beef, which finally led to suspension of wholesale prices on red and blue beef for 2 months last summer. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, July 29, 1946, page 456).

PHILIPPINE MEAT
PRODUCTION RISES

The shortage of livestock in the Philippines is not as acute as originally estimated after liberation. It now appears that early surveys on livestock losses were based on the decrease in the battle areas, and that sufficient consideration was not given to herds that were not greatly reduced in noncombat areas. Nevertheless, cattle and carabao herds will require a number of years to reach prewar levels; while hog numbers are fast approaching the prewar level. During the last few years, Philippine herds have been particularly healthy and rinderpest has been practically eliminated, but some fear still exists that the disease may be reintroduced.

Slaughter of cattle and carabao continues at a high rate because of the demand for fresh beef. It is estimated that the Filipinos consumed about 100,000 short tons of all kinds of meat annually before the war. This figure does not include various amounts of pork, beef, and poultry slaughtered by farmers.

Requirements for all kinds of imported meat during 1947 are estimated at from 15,000 to 20,000 short tons. The meat supply in 1947, however, is expected to be much better than in 1946, because of a greater volume of imports. At the present time, negotiations are under way with the Australian Government for the importation of live cattle from the Darwin area. Isolation pens near Manila, now being repaired, will be in condition to receive the cattle, which are expected to arrive in fairly large quantities by April. Some progress has been made in rebuilding cold storage facilities in Manila, and sufficient cold storage space is believed to be available for any frozen meat which might be secured in the world market during 1947.